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## Special Shoco Award for "Jamaica"



Minister of Tourism Oduber recognizes Edward Keith aka 'Jamaica' - for his years as a volunteer greeter and luggage handler at Aruba's airport. (see story page 14)



The 2011 Nobel Peace Prize laureates, Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf (R), Liberian peace activist Leymah Gbowee (C) and Yemeni activist Tawakkol Karman (L) pose with their medals and certificates during the Nobel Peace Prize award ceremony at the City Hall in Oslo. They were recognised for their "non-violent struggle" for women's safety and for women's rights to participate in peace-building work. (AFP)

## 10th anniversary SETAR Mobile Bazaar keeps Aruba in touch



SETAR Director Roland Croes admires Edmar and his hat



Suzy Maduro welcomes shoppers



VIP winners of the SETAR SMS contest

Many islanders will be the happy recipients of brand new cell phones this Christmas, as all those who love a bargain lined up outside the headquarters in Seroe Blanco to take advantage of the 10th Anniversary Edition of the SETAR Mobile Bazaar. SETAR, as Aruba's national telecommunications company, is also celebrating 25 years of existence along with the island's autonomous status within the Dutch Kingdom.

Each year, dozens of popular brands and models are offered at rock bottom prices, as SETAR clears their inventory for the newest models. The company makes the day a fun, festive event, with traditional

seasonal entertainment, a food court, and free popcorn and dino jump activities for the kids; many families come pre-

pared to make it an all-day outing.

This year, SETAR also featured a special SMS competition, with 10 lucky winners chosen to be VIP clients and the first ones in the door, able to take advantage of some of the special perks for early shoppers, including a balloon drop awarding 12 winners gift certificates for prepaid minutes, and a beautiful gift bag of goodies for the first 50 in the door.

The first 200 also have access to the mystery phone purchase for only 19 florins (\$11) and the "grab bag" purchase for 35 florins (\$20) which make great gifts for young ones getting their first phone.

*Continued on page 2*

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According to ELMAR's director  
**Behavior change is  
necessary to reduce  
one's electricity bill**



ORANJESTAD -- ELMAR's director, Ing. Robert Henriquez, is very pleased with the "Hunto nos ta Spaar" (together we can save) campaign, and with the results that those who have applied the advice are seeing in their electric bills.

The "Together we can Save" campaign has one major objective, and that is to demonstrate the serious commitment that WEB and ELMAR and Utilities Aruba have towards the community. They have a commitment as good corporate citizens to give something back to the commu-

nity.

This type of project is to help the community to find ways to save on the use of electricity and water. The advice and tips that they share with their clients are actually designed to help people to change their behavior regarding their use of electricity and water. If we, indeed, change our behavior, change the way we use electricity and water in our homes, we will reduce our consumption and consequently our electric and water bills.

*Continued on page 3*

**10th anniversary SETAR Mobile Bazaar...**

*Continued from page 1*



Islanders settle in for the hours of waiting



The Werlemans waited since Monday to be first in the door



VIP costumers win 50 free minutes

The Werlemans, who had been camped out since Monday to be the first in the door, purchased the Blackberry of their dreams. It may remind some of "Black Friday" in the U.S., but with considerably less frenzy. SETAR staff had a long day ahead of them, knowing they would be handling thousands of customers by the time the doors closed at 7:00 PM, but they embodied the spirit of the season and delivered service with a smile.

*by Rosalie Klein*



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## Aruba Port Authority extends harbor opening hours for the end of the year

ORANJESTAD – Christmas season is a busy season for all businesses on Aruba, which means a great increase in cargo coming to Aruba. Due to this, ASTEC, the stevedore company for Oranjestad harbor, together with APA – the Aruba Ports Authority, and the Aruba Custom Services, decided to extend the service hours at the Harbor gates.

As of tomorrow, December 13, 2011, through Friday, January 6, 2012, the opening hours will be extended until 6 p.m. during the week.

It is felt this will provide greater flexibility for clients to take care of their cargo.



ASTEC wishes all its clients success in the coming days and Seasons Greeting to all!

## ELMAR Director: Behavior change is necessary...

*Continued from page 2*

In a soon to be televised video, we will see an exemplary program of the testimony of someone who changed their behavior and learned how to save using the tips received from WEB and ELMAR. We will see how we too can follow suit and save energy. The important message is that we need to put the tips into practice so we can reap the positive benefits this will bring.

According to Robert Henriquez, if we change our behavior with respect to how we go about our use of water and electricity, this will undoubtedly reduce our consumption and lower our monthly energy cost considerably.



**ELMAR Director Robert Henriquez**

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Portugal, Porto : People dressed as Santa Claus take part in the annual Santa Claus parade in Porto on December 11, 2011. Thousands staged a parade in an attempt to break the Guinness book of records of most people dressed as Santa Claus. (AFP PHOTO)

## First Lionfish Control Championship winner is Tintin Giel

On Sunday, December 4th, the Aruba Lionfish Control Championship of the Marine Park Foundation came to a close with Juan "Tintin" Giel and the T&T team as the grand prize winners.

Up to the very last moment participants were still coming up with large amounts of Lionfish to be added to the fantastic cook-out held at Hadicurari. By noon, a large gathering of people came to support the participants and to taste the deliciously prepared dishes with Lionfish.

The Lionfish Control campaign was a smashing success thanks to the many volunteers and participants. Aruba became the biggest winner in this drive as a huge number of Lionfish has been eliminated from our waters.

### The winning teams:

Third place winner was the Aruba Under Water Hunters

with 392 Lionfish eliminated from our waters. They earned 421.53 points and received a Afls.550 cash prize and a trophy.

Second place winners were Lifeguards Aruba with 372 Lionfish eliminated and 427.04 points accumulated for which they won Afls.750 and a plaque.

The team with the highest amount of points won the first prize...Afls.1000, and a plaque of the Aruba Marine Park Foundation was T&T team

### Individual Winners:

This became quite a battle among the leaders to determine who gets the 5 first places to earn the grand prize.

Fifth place winner was Jair Britten with 99 Lionfish and 99.78 points.

Fourth place winner was Kit Wong with 86 Lionfish and 101.34 points, which earned him a trophy and a Afls.250



All the participants

cash prize.

Third place winner was Norman Arends with 258 Lionfish worth 280.91 points which earned him a trophy and a Afls.350 cash prize.

Second place winner was Canicio van der Biezen with 298 Lionfish worth 342.30 points for a Afls.550 prize and

a plaque.

The grand prize winner was Juan "Tintin" Giel who caught a total of 410 Lionfish which earned him a total of 470.58 points. Even during the last day of the tournament Tintin brought in 50 more Lionfish, including two live fish to put on display for the audience.

### Cook out and presentation of prizes:

During the final event all the Lionfish were prepared and fried for everyone to taste. Even the fins of the Lionfish were used as toothpicks. Both locals and tourists alike enjoyed the cook out and enjoyed the taste of the fish.

By 3:00 in the afternoon all the prizes were presented to the winners. Allie Elhage of the Eco-intuit company presented a gift of two Zookeeper Lionfish Containment Units. These are special apparatus where Lionfish can be kept and which will help fishermen who fish for Lionfish to be able to catch even more of these dangerous creatures of the sea.

Aruba is the big winner in this tremendous Lionfish Tournament. Over 1500 Lionfish were eliminated from our waters and several areas are now totally free of the invasive and dangerous Lionfish. Everyone expressed their satisfaction for a job well done.

The consensus is, however, that we should not stop at this event, but that the fight to eliminate all Lionfish from all areas of our sea waters must continue.

The Board of Aruba Marine Park Foundation and the organizing committee expresses their heartfelt gratitude to everyone who in one way or the other contributed to making the Lionfish 2011 Tournament such a whopping success.

Special thanks went to the Ministry of Tourism and the Total Product Enhancement Fund (TPEF) who saw the importance of taking on this massive threat of the Lionfish in our waters as it relates to our tourism and environment. Also, a special thanks goes out to the local press who covered all the events and created the enthusiasm for the tournament.



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## Citizen testifies of Afls.1200 monthly reduction on water and electricity!

One of the biggest financial burdens that Aruban citizens have each month is the high cost of their electric and water bills! For this reason the utility companies decided to introduce the special "Hunto Nos Ta Spaar" campaign. This campaign has taken experts of both Web and Elmar to the streets visiting homes sharing valuable tips on how to save water and electricity.

By making certain very small adaptations, one will begin to see significant changes in their monthly bills.

Journalist Harry Croes is a vivid example of how we can save and reduce our monthly

expenses through using energy efficiently.

Harry Croes is one of our citizens who decided that he would take the challenge to find ways to save on electricity and water. The "Hunto Nos Ta Spaar" program is designed to help citizens to learn how to save. Harry Croes shared how he was visited at home by a couple of WEB experts. These experts toured his residence together with him and explained in detail what he needed to do to reduce his water and electricity consumption.

For example, in his living room, they suggested he replace 6 light bulbs for more efficient bulbs which use

much less electricity and yet give even more lumens. He was amazed at the bright light that those new more efficient light bulbs gave.

Croes reported that he was paying a whopping Afls. 2000 per month for water and electricity combined! Harry Croes, says, "...I know my house is quite big and this is why I wanted to find a way to reduce my monthly expense, but I did not know how to do this."

However, after making the changes, Croes now pays less than Afls. 700 for water and electricity per month. Hence, he is convinced that the "Hunto Nos Ta Spaar" project is a fantastic project and

that everyone of us should embrace the program and apply the tips to reduce our monthly expenses.

Harry Croes' home has four bedrooms and three bathrooms, and by using the tips and making necessary changes, he was able to drastically reduce his water and electricity expenses.

Appliances such as Rice Cooker, Microwave, etc, which were previously very necessary in his home, have now become appliances they no longer use. His energy consumption dropped considerably to a savings of between 1000 to 1200 Aruban fFlorins per month.

There are many light bulbs

that we need to change. These new bulbs may cost more to purchase than the others that use more electricity. But, they are remarkably more efficient and reduce our consumption considerably. Harry Croes is extremely satisfied with the challenge he took and with the positive results he now enjoys. He wants to encourage everyone to do the same and to enjoy the same fantastic benefits.

Anyone who wants to learn more about how they can reduce their energy consumption and save, should call WEB and make an appointment for a free visit at home!

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### Russia probes vote after massive protest

MOSCOW (AFP) - Russian President Dmitry Medvedev yesterday ordered election officials to check reports of vote fixing following a national protest over an election that handed a disputed victory to the ruling party.

Medvedev said he flatly disagreed with the idea of staging fresh elections but had already issued instructions for a closer look at the reports of rampant ballot stuffing and cases of officials fixing the vote count.

"I disagree with the slogans and declarations made at the meetings," the tech-savvy Medvedev wrote in his Facebook account. "Nevertheless, I have issued instructions to check all polling station reports about (failure) to follow election laws."

Saturday's historic demonstrations near the Kremlin saw more than 50,000 people deride the outcome of December 4 elections that were widely seen as a litmus test for Vladimir Putin's planned return to the presidency next year.

The protests were the largest to hit the Russian capital since the tumultuous 1990s and levelled some of the most intense political pressure at Putin since he first rose to the presidency in 2000.

The former KGB agent currently serves as prime minister after making Medvedev his hand-picked presidential successor in 2008 and intends to

return to the Kremlin for up to 12 more years in March elections that he appears destined to win.

But scenes similar to those witnessed Saturday in Moscow were also replayed on a smaller scale across the industrial hubs of Siberia and the Urals -- a sign that Putin's path back may be more fraught than it first appeared.

Putin stayed out of the limelight over the weekend while his spokesman issued a carefully-worded statement that sounded a cautiously conciliatory note.

"We respect the point of view of the protesters. We are hearing what is being said and we will continue to listen to them," Putin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said.

Medvedev's own comments suggest the two leaders are keen to quickly stamp out the most serious political flare-up of Putin's 12-year rule.

But Medvedev fell far short of satisfying the opposition's main demand to stage new elections.

Rally organisers have already threatened to return to the same Moscow square en masse on December 24 and possibly to hold smaller rallies at various locations before then.

Yet analysts point to a series of small but significant changes in state policy in the past few days that hint at serious official concern about the public discontent.

### OFFICIAL: NATO to halt Iraq mission at year-end

LONDON (AFP) - NATO will withdraw its Iraq training mission at year-end after Baghdad refused to grant it legal immunity, Iraq's top security adviser said yesterday, mirroring the nearly-complete pullout of US forces.

But a NATO official in Brussels denied that any decision had been taken.

Iraq said the end of the mission was a surprise, with NATO previously having agreed in principle to staying through to the end of 2013.

"NATO surprised us with this decision," National Security Adviser Falah al-Fayadh said in an interview aboard a flight transporting Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki to Washington.

"We are sorry that NATO has advised that it will withdraw its mission from Iraq... because immunity is some-

thing that is out of the government's reach," he added, saying Baghdad was informed of the decision on Thursday.

The failure to agree on immunity from prosecution closely mirrors Iraq's refusal to grant US soldiers similar protections earlier this year, sinking a potential deal between the two countries that means all American soldiers left in Iraq will leave by year-end.

Around 6,000 US troops remain stationed in the country on three bases, down from peaks of nearly 170,000 soldiers and 505 bases.

Fayadh added: "I would have preferred that there would be cooperation with NATO in

other aspects, and not only through its mission in Iraq, and I was hoping that this mission would stay."

An official at NATO headquarters in Brussels, however, said: "There hasn't been a decision yet."

"When they ask us to extend the mission, we need to see that the same legal framework will extend as well," the official said on condition of anonymity.

Also yesterday, US forces handed over to Iraq's defence ministry a fourth base, Contingency Operating Site Kalsu, near the central Iraqi town of Iskandiriyah, in Babil province.

### Noriega arrived in Panama yesterday

PANAMA CITY (AFP) - Panama's former dictator Manuel Noriega arrived from France yesterday to serve prison time in his native land, officials said yesterday.

"Yes, Manuel Noriega arrived late today from France, after a stopover in Madrid," Panama's Minister of Government and Justice, Roxana Mendez, told AFP.

After spending over 22 years in US and French prisons, Noriega is back in Panama, following a French appeals court's ruling that he could be extradited to serve time for crimes committed under his iron-fisted rule of the



Manuel Noriega

1980s.

The former US ally, now 77, ruled Panama from 1983 until his overthrow in a US invasion in 1989.



EGYPT, Cairo: A patch covers the eye of the statue of Egyptian novelist Naguib Mahfouz in Cairo on December 11, 2011 in a symbolic tribute to Egyptian protesters who lost their eyes during recent clashes with security forces. (AFP PHOTO)

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## Venezuela opposition 'united like never before'

SAO PAULO (AFP) - The Venezuelan opposition to President Hugo Chavez is "united like never before", the man coordinating the choice of its presidential candidate said in an interview published here yesterday.

Ramon Guillermo Aveledo, ex-president of the Venezuelan Chamber of Deputies, also told the daily Folha de S. Paulo that the ailing Chavez needed to give Venezuelans assurances regarding the state of his health if he intends to run for re-election next year.

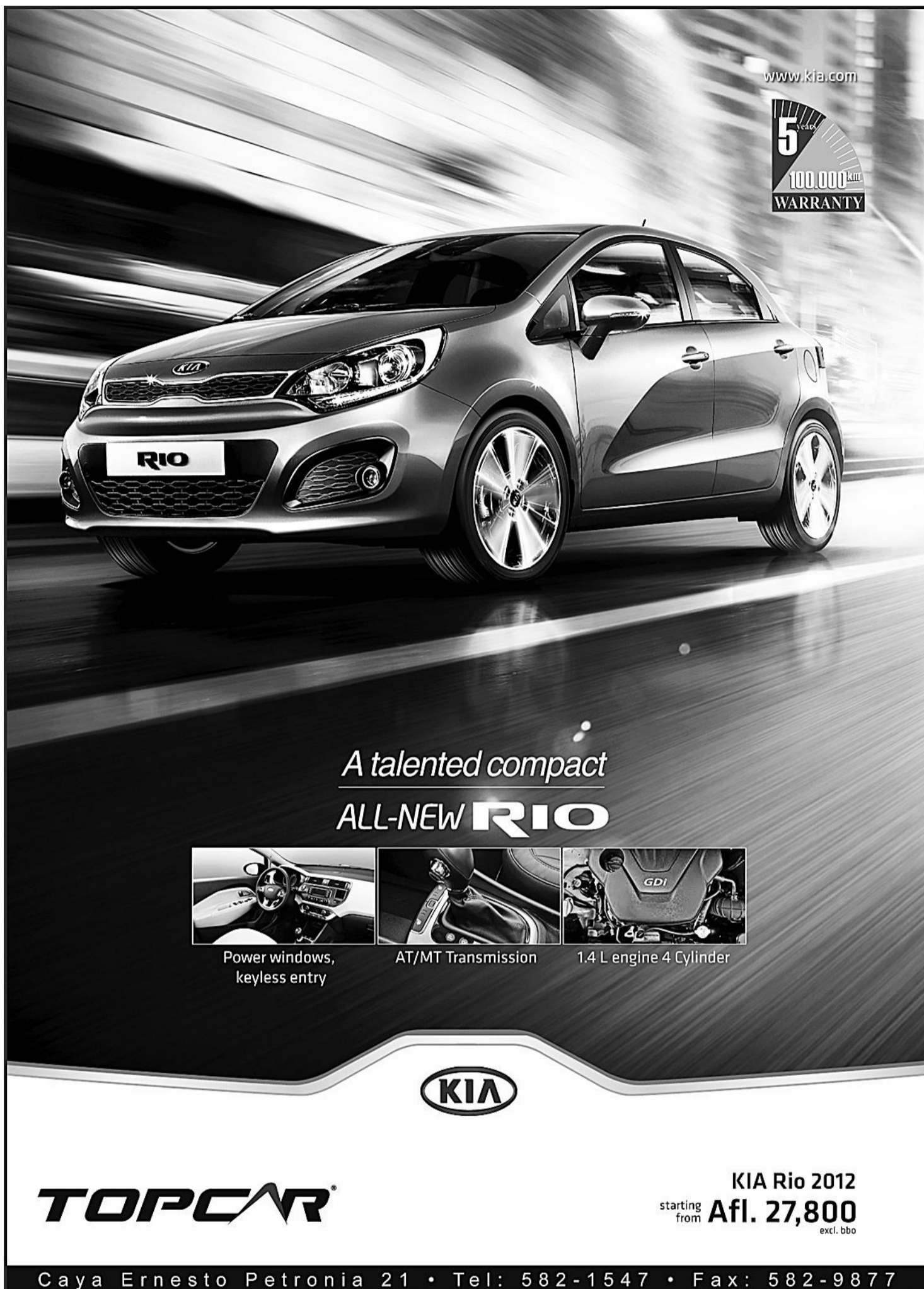
Asked whether a Chavez departure would not create a political vacuum given his strong leadership and lack of political heir, he replied: "This vacuum would be that of Chavism."

"We will field our candidate and we are united like never before," Aveledo added during the interview conducted in Brasilia. "We have names with a lot of viability and with a popularity similar to that of Chavez."

The Venezuelan opposition is to hold primaries in mid-February, with Henrique Capriles, the popular and telegenic governor of the northern state of Miranda, seen as the front-runner.

A recent poll by the firm Datanalisis shows Capriles as the leading opposition candidate with 40 percent support; followed by Leopoldo Lopez with 20 percent; Pablo Perez with 17 percent, and Maria Corina Machado with nearly 6 percent.

On Chavez's health, Aveledo said: "If he wants to run, he needs to give assurances to Venezuelans. The illness has not been treated with transparency, like in Brazil."



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## Cristina Fernández begins second presidential term

BUENOS AIRES, — Argentine President Cristina Fernandez took the oath of office for the second time Saturday, the only female leader in Latin America to ever be re-elected, in an inauguration marked by a tearful tribute to her late husband and political partner.

Fernandez, 58, pledged before Congress and a gathering of foreign dignitaries to honor

the constitution and the memory of the late President Nestor Kirchner.

"I swear to God, the country and the blessed saints to carry out the office of the president and to honor ... the Argentine constitution," said Fernandez.

"If I don't, then let God, the country and him take me to task for it," the president

added, her voice cracking with emotion as she referred to Kirchner.

The 58-year-old lawyer, known for her heavy make-up and long auburn hair, has ridden a wave of public support since the sudden heart attack of her husband and political partner Nestor Kirchner almost one year ago.

He was credited with man-

aging the couple's presidential dynasty and had been expected to run again after serving from 2003-2007.

Cristina admires the legacy of Evita, a glamorous figure who reached out to the poor and still appears with Juan Peron on the flags of Kirchner supporters.

Like Peron, the Kirchners won over many of Argentina's

poor districts with generous public spending.

Argentina's 40 million people are facing economic uncertainty, and the big question for the 58-year-old leader is whether to continue the government spending and price controls that worked so well in her first term.



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## Health & Living

# World vigilant after Dutch lab mutates killer virus

PARIS (AFP) - World health ministers said Friday they were being vigilant after a Dutch laboratory developed a mutant version of the deadly bird flu virus that is for the first time contagious among humans.

"We need to be very vigilant. This is something that we talked about a lot this morning," French Health Minister Xavier Bertrand said on the sidelines of a meeting of the Global Health Security Initiative (GHSI) in Paris.

The GHSI comprises the G7 group of industrialised nations along with Mexico, the European Union's Commission and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

A research team led by Ron Fouchier at Rotterdam's Erasmus Medical Centre said in September it had created a mutant version of the H5N1 bird flu virus that could for the first time be spread among mammals.

The H5N1 strain of bird flu is fatal in 60 percent of human cases but only 350 people have so far died from the disease largely because it cannot, yet, be transmitted between humans.

The announcement led to fears the mutant virus could find its way into nature or that the publication of the research on how the virus was mutated could be used by terrorists.

EU Health Commissioner John Dalli told journalists he had received assurances from Dutch authorities that the virus was secure.

"The Dutch authorities confirmed that the virus itself is stored in a very secured way and that the necessary permits were given and that the researchers are bound by a code of conduct," Dalli said.

"One of the issues ... is to ensure that any information coming from this research is well controlled and without sensitive details about mutation being given," he said.

Fouchier said in a statement his team had discovered that transmission of the virus was possible between humans "and can be carried out more easily than we thought."

"In a laboratory, it was possible to change the H5N1 into a virus ... that can easily be spread through the air. This process (mutation) could also happen naturally," Fouchier said.

## 4 Healthy Late-Night Snacks

*It's not uncommon to turn to a little late-night snack while relaxing before bed. But to ensure that you're eating the best things at night, focus on foods that are rich in nutrients and low in calories. Here are four healthy options for late-night snacks.*

### Cereal With Low-Fat Milk



Go for healthy cereal that contains fiber, which will keep you at the optimal level of satiety until morning. The combination of low-fat milk and nutrients in the cereal also give you a good dose of calcium, vitamin D and protein. Try to pick cereal that is high in protein and low in sugar, like raisin bran.

### Whole-Grain Crackers

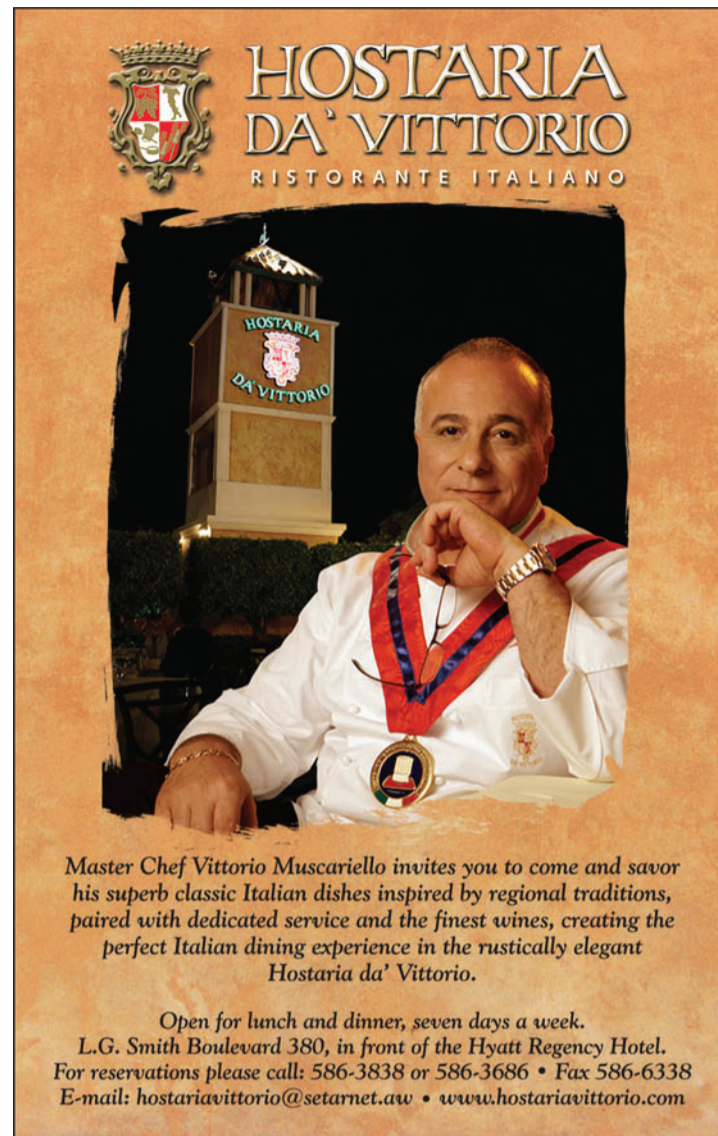
Crackers contain protein and are healthier for you than carbohydrates. Make sure to choose crackers that are whole-wheat or multigrain rather than starchy and white. Small servings of crackers can go a long way in helping you to feel full – but not too full. For added variety, add hummus, low-fat cheese or a slice of lean meat.

### Dark Chocolate

If you need a dose of chocolate, make sure it's dark! Dark chocolate contains a good number of antioxidants, which can help you lower your blood pressure while satisfying your mid-night sweet tooth. Dark chocolate also contains less sugar than milk chocolate. Make sure not to go overboard here – a few cubes of a chocolate bar should do.

### Popcorn

Popcorn probably makes you think of butter and salt. However, without the fatty condiments, it can actually work well to satisfy hunger in a healthy way. Instead of butter and salt, try adding cayenne pepper or cinnamon to air-popped popcorn. It's fairly low in calories and is also a good source of easily digested complex carbohydrates.



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## Olive Oil and tree nuts seem to improve cholesterol levels

Upping your intake of monounsaturated fats - found in olive oil, tree nuts and avocados - can help improve cholesterol levels, a small new study suggests.

These fats can raise levels of HDL cholesterol (the "good" kind) by 12.5 percent, and reduce levels of LDL cholesterol by 35 percent, when eaten with a low-cholesterol diet, said study researcher Dr. David Jenkins.

"The exciting thing about the study is if you take a diet which is quite spectacular in lowering cholesterol, you can make it even better by adding monounsaturated fats," Jenkins, director of the Risk Factor Modification Centre at St. Michael's Hospital in Canada said.

Good cholesterol helps protect against heart attacks by carrying cholesterol away from the arteries, and some experts think it may also slow the buildup of arterial plaques, according to the

American Heart Association. Bad cholesterol builds on the inner walls of the arteries, narrowing and hardening them, and increasing the risk of heart attack and stroke.

Because the study involved only people with mildly or moderately high cholesterol, Jenkins said people with very high cholesterol shouldn't try to replace their statin medications with a dietary solution unless they're prepared to take diet seriously.

Jenkins said the finding shows that not only can these fats improve good levels in a short period of time, they don't raise levels of bad cholesterol.

As with all foods, people should eat monounsaturated fats in moderation, Jenkins noted.

"You have to get rid of the danishes and the bagels in order to make room for the calories from the monounsaturated fats," he said.



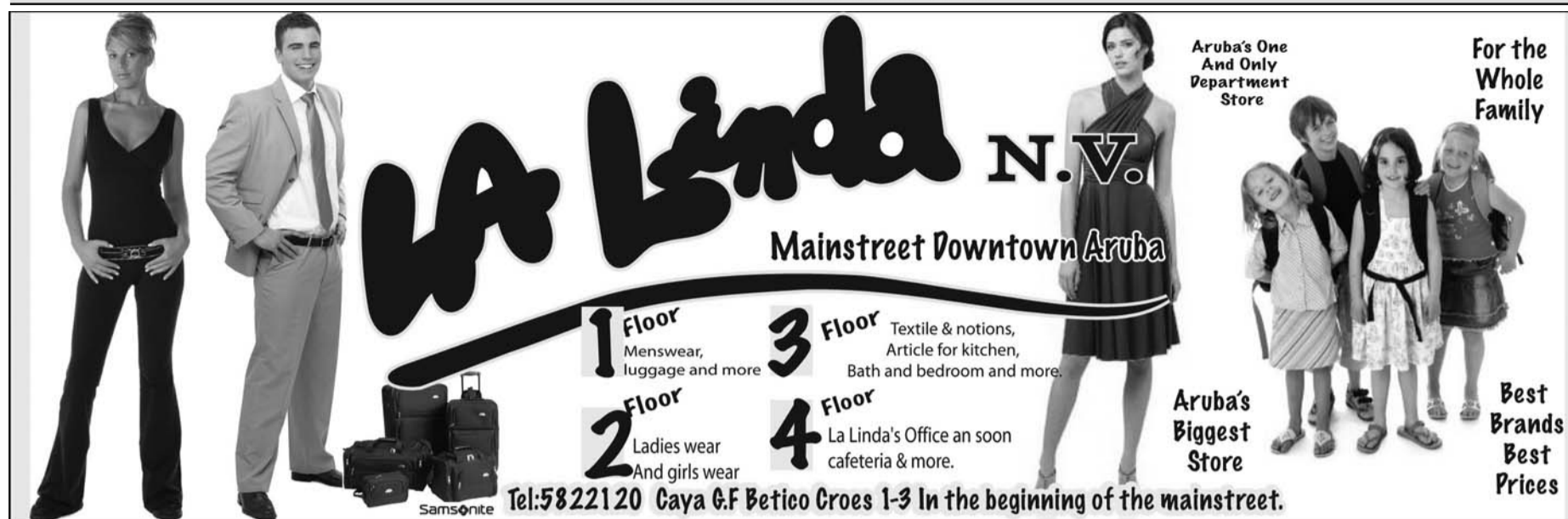
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## SCI-TECH

## Nations set course for 2015 global climate pact

DURBAN (AFP) - A marathon UN climate conference on Sunday approved a roadmap towards an accord that for the first time will bring all major greenhouse-gas emitters under a single legal roof.

If approved as scheduled in 2015, the pact will be operational from 2020 and become the prime weapon in the fight against climate change.

The deal was reached after nearly 14 days of talks under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UN-

FCCC).

The forum also launched a "Green Climate Fund" to help channel up to 100 billion dollars a year in aid to poor, vulnerable countries by 2020, an initiative born under the 2009 Copenhagen Summit.

"I believe that what we have achieved in Durban will play a central role in saving tomorrow, today," declared South African Foreign Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, who chaired the talks.

Approval came after two and a half days of round-the-

clock wrangling among 194 nations.

And the often-stormy exchanges reflected concerns among many countries over the cost of making energy efficiencies and switching to clean renewable sources at a time of belt-tightening.

UNFCCC chief Christiana Figueres was exultant.

Citing the words of Nelson Mandela, she said on Twitter: "In honour of Mandela: It always seems impossible until it is done. And it is done!"

The European Union hailed the outcome as a "historic breakthrough"

"Where the (1997) Kyoto (protocol) divides the world into two categories, we will now get a system that reflects the reality of today's mutually interdependent world," Connie Hedegaard, the EU commissioner for climate action, said in the statement.

Greenpeace, however, lamented the deal as a victory for polluters over people.

"The grim news is that the blockers lead by the US have succeeded in inserting a vital get-out clause that could easily prevent the next big climate deal being legally binding. If that loophole is exploited it could be a disaster," said Greenpeace director Kumi Naidoo.

### US director makes first smartphone movie

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - An independent US filmmaker has made what is believed to be the first feature-length movie shot with a smartphone, to be released next week -- with actress Gena Rowlands in the starring role.

"Olive," about "a little girl who transforms the lives of three people without speaking one word," was filmed using only a Nokia N8 cellphone, with a high-resolution camera adapted with a 35 mm lens to give added depth of field.

"Technology is moving so quickly and cellphones are really going to be the thing that does everything eventually," director Hooman Khalili told AFP in an interview ahead of the US theater release of his movie on December 16.

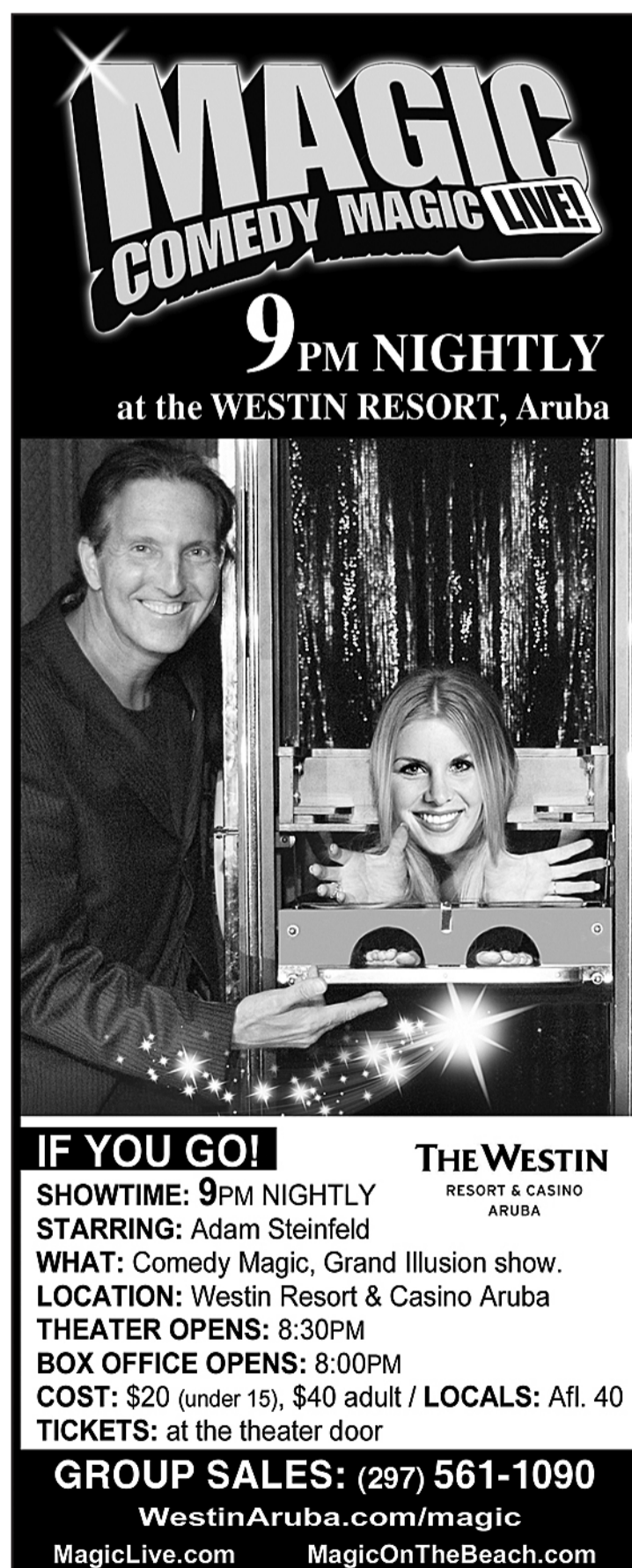
"They already do so much, and in January 2010 I came up with this idea and I saw there was nothing out there that existed," added the 37-year-old, who began pre-production of the movie last year.

The first five minutes of "Olive," viewable at [www.olivethemovie.com](http://www.olivethemovie.com), have already set tongues wagging in Hollywood, where the movie industry is gearing up for its annual awards season.

Set for release in Los Angeles next week, the movie is eligible to be nominated for the Oscars in February.



CHINA, Hefei : This combo show the different moments of a lunar eclipse in the sky, as seen in Hefei, east China's Anhui province on December 10, 2011. (AFP photo)



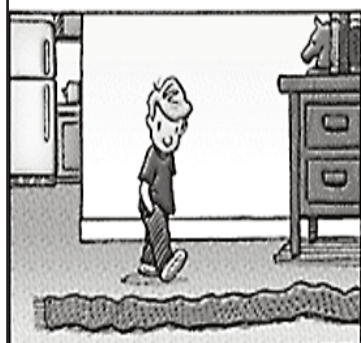
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## CROSSWORD



## CROSSWORD

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## YOU TALKIN' TO ME?

## ACROSS

1. Pit stop pick-up
5. Jutting rock
9. Corn-attacking sound
12. Oppositionist
13. "The Greeks \_\_\_\_ Word for It"
14. Accolade for Segovia
15. Rob and Bob, for Robert
17. Toothpaste option
18. Mother of the winds
19. "\_\_\_\_ Soul Picnic" (Laura Nyro)

## DOWN

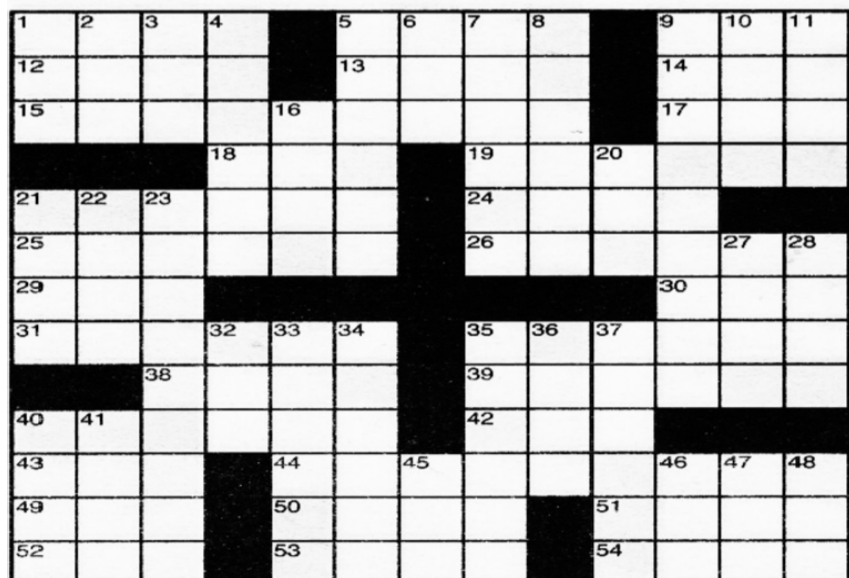
21. Dwell
24. Matador confronter
25. Chews the scenery
26. Nail polish
29. Certain diplomat: abbr.
30. Compass heading
31. Ecclesiastical unit
35. Meeting announcement enclosure
38. Small bit
39. Drunk
40. "Son of..." movie
42. Z-movie heavy

- Johnson
43. Greek letter
44. Elia, for Lamb
49. Avail oneself of
50. Boldly smart
51. Take a look
52. "You \_\_\_\_ Your Life"
53. Rochester's second wife
54. Virginia, to Fifi

## DOWN

1. Prop for Sally Rand
2. One: prefix
3. Vague list ender
4. "Some \_\_\_\_ Hot"

5. Pursues
6. Butt
7. "\_\_\_\_ Fideles"
8. "Phantom of the Opera" author Leroux
9. Caesar et al.
10. Helm position
11. Connect metal
16. Swelling
20. "...man \_\_\_\_ mouse?"
21. Gather
22. Jane Austen novel
23. Honest Abe, for one
27. Conclusion, in Germany
28. Buckshot ingredient
32. Promissory note
33. Siberian expanse
34. "Uncle Albert/Admiral \_\_\_\_" (Paul McCartney)
35. Shrewd
36. Benefit
37. The Continent
40. Cigar-smoker's leftover
41. Relaxation
45. Be wrong
46. Shrimper's accessory
47. Affirmative reply
48. "Rocky III" actor



Answer on page 120

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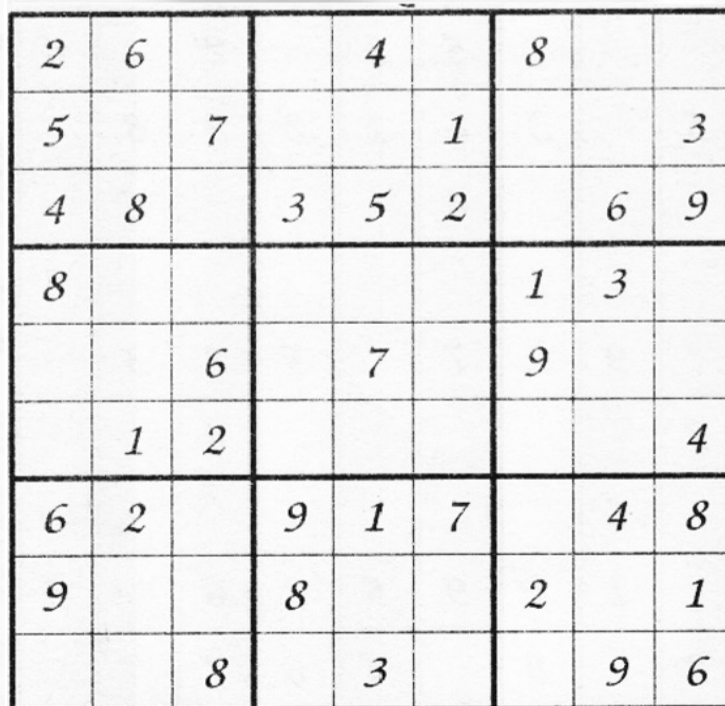
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Sudoku



SOLUTION

9	6	5	4	7	8	1	2	3
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
4	8	9	1	6	5	2	3	7
7	5	6	8	1	9	4	3	2
2	1	9	3	4	6	5	7	8
6	9	1	2	5	3	8	7	4
5	7	4	1	8	9	2	6	3
3	1	8	6	7	2	9	4	5

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9  
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.  
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9




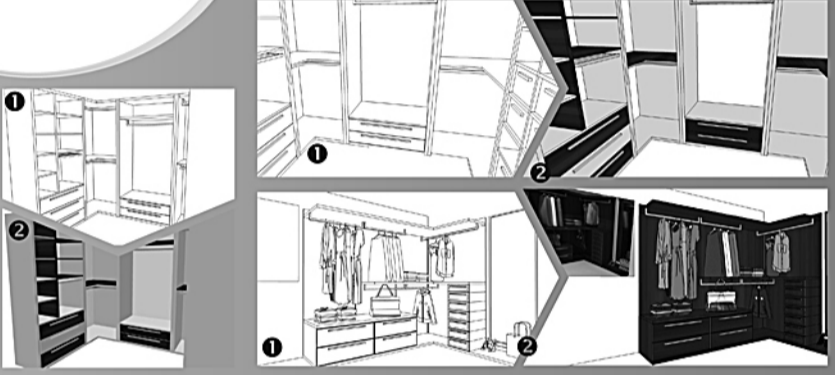
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## Finance

### Iran urges OPEC to ease above-quota output

TEHRAN (AFP) - Iran's oil minister yesterday renewed calls for OPEC members Saudi Arabia and Kuwait to ease back their above-quota production as Libyan oil flows back into the market.

"Today, supply and demand in the market is balanced and Iran's policy is to keep OPEC member states from raising production," Rostam Qasemi said on the oil ministry's website ahead of a meeting by the cartel on Wednesday.

Iran also wishes to see an "end to some countries' extra production which started when Libya exited the market," he said.

Qasemi did not name the countries, but the remarks

were clearly aimed at Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

The two Gulf states boosted production to compensate for the suspension of Libyan oil exports to avoid a surge in world prices after the North African country's descent into civil war this year.

Tehran, which traditionally favours high oil prices, has on several occasions called for a halt to the above-quota production since Libya resumed production in September, but it has largely not been heeded.

"Libya's production will reach 1.5 million barrels a day in less than a year, and Iraq is also seeing a rise in production," Qasemi said.

### Creditors resume crunch talks with Greece on second bailout

ATHENS (AFP) - Experts from the eurozone, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund resumed talks with the Greek government today on a second lifeline accorded to debt-ravaged Athens.

Three days after a make-or-break summit on the eurozone in Brussels, the eurozone's Matthias Mors, ECB's Klaus Mazuch and the IMF's Pol Thomsen returned to Greece for "a key phase," in the process of salvaging the Greek economy, said Finance Minister Evangelos Venizelos.

"We will begin this week in Athens with the troika of two very important procedures to put into place a new loan decided in Brussels on October 26-27," and negotiations with

creditors to wipe off 50 percent of Greek debt, the Greek minister said late Friday in Brussels.

Greece is reeling from the shock to its pride and credibility after financial markets turned against it because of its massive, unsustainable debt mountain of more than 350 billion euros (\$470 billion), forcing Athens to seek EU-IMF bailouts.

The eurozone decided in October to accord Greece a new loan of 130 billion euros of which 30 billion will be used to recapitalize banks.

An initial loan of 110 billion euros, spread over three years, was accorded to Athens in 2010. Greece has already received 73 billion euros of that money.

The aim is wipe off 100 billion euros of Greek debt and to bring it down to 120 percent of Gross Domestic Product by 2020 from the current level of more than 160 percent.

Officials from the Institute of International Finance, which are carrying out talks with creditors, are due to arrive in Athens this week, the finance ministry said.

Venizelos warned of "a hard battle ahead" under "very difficult conditions in Europe and the world."

But a banking expert speaking to leading Greek newspaper Kathimerini said on condition of anonymity that given "the uncertainty in the eurozone, the deal with creditors will become more and more difficult."

### France won't use state funds to shore up banks

PARIS (AFP) - The French government will not use state funds to assist banks in their efforts to build up capital after being hit by the eurozone debt crisis, Budget Minister Valerie Pécresse said yesterday.

"The state will not put money into French banks," Pécresse, who is also the government's spokeswoman, said in a joint interview with Eu-

rope 1 radio and i>TELE television.

"We think the banks' financing needs are not so great that they cannot face them on their own," she said.

"The French (banks) can recapitalize to the tune of about 7 billion euros with their own funds, their own profits," she said.

#### SATURDAY'S Crossword Answer



**CHINA, BEIJING** : A man practices a traditional Chinese dance in a park in Beijing on December 11, 2011. China's economy is expected to grow 8.9 percent next year which would be the slowest pace in more than a decade, the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, a state-run think tank, said this week. (AFP PHOTO)

## Hollywood less forgiving on ageing actresses: Deneuve



SINGAPORE (AFP) - French screen legend Catherine Deneuve said recently it was easier for ageing European actresses to play leading roles than it is for female stars in Hollywood where younger alternatives get the nod.

"It's easier to be an European actress than an American actress as far as age is concerned," said Deneuve, who was in Singapore for a French film festival.

"I think it's difficult to have a career in the States because (of) the competition and most of all, the appeal for youth is so intense and it's very difficult for an actress to grow older in American cinemas," she added.

But US actresses as well as ones from Britain enjoyed a wider appeal because of their English-language backgrounds, Deneuve said.

"I think actresses that are English-born or American-born are more lucky than other actresses because they can work in different countries without any problem. It's the limit of European actresses," said Deneuve.

Deneuve, who has played leading roles in French hits such as *Belle de jour* and *Indochine*, said she enjoyed working on the set of *Asterix & Obelix: On Her Majesty's Service* with fellow French star Gerard Depardieu.

"He's a wonderful partner. He loves women and he loves actresses, so he's very, very open. He's a very generous partner for women and men as well," she gushed.

"When he's on the set, there is something more. He's very alive and very present, he talks all the time, he always has something to say, always a funny story he has to say."

Depardieu made headlines in August when he was caught short on a Paris to Dublin flight and relieved himself on the cabin floor in front of shocked passengers.

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## Playboy out early as nude Lohan photos leak

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Playboy is to release its January/February issue early after nude pictures of troubled starlet Lindsay Lohan leaked online, boss Hugh Hefner said Friday.

The actress, who was reportedly paid nearly \$1 million for the magazine spread, appears on the cover seated on a bright red Playboy bunny chair, only just protecting her modesty.

"Because of the interest & the Internet leak, we're releasing the Lindsay Lohan issue early," Hefner said on Twitter, adding: "Lindsay Lohan was the top search name on the Internet yesterday."

"Hot. Hot. Hot," tweeted Hefner, announcing that the next issue of the magazine will come out next week.

The leaked pictures show the curvy actress channeling Marilyn Monroe, flirting with the camera in a series of soft porn-style poses lying, kneeling or stretching herself voluptuously against red velvet drapery.

The actress had wanted \$1 million for the Playboy spread and balked at an initial offer of \$750,000 -- but Hefner eventually made an offer near enough to \$1 million to entice her, celebrity

news website TMZ reported.

Lohan -- once the promising child star of hit Disney movies *"The Parent Trap"* and *"Freaky Friday"* -- has a reputation for hard partying and has faced a series of legal tangles over the years.

### Baldwin sorry in plane row, but slams service

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - US actor Alec Baldwin apologized to fellow passengers this past week after he was thrown off a plane for "extremely rude" behavior -- but slammed "Greyhound"-style service on US airlines since 9/11.

The "30 Rock" star also insisted he was singled out unfairly when a "1950s gym teacher" American Airlines flight attendant ordered him to turn off his phone while waiting to take off.

Recalling the rule that cellphones and electronic devices must be turned off when the plane doors are closed and seatbelt lights on, American said: "This passenger declined to turn off his cell phone when asked to do so."

"The passenger ultimately stood up (with the seatbelt light still on for departure) and took his phone into the plane's lavatory."

## A charming oasis of food and fun to be found at Kalin's

We are very excited about a discovery we made during the hectic hustle and bustle of holiday shopping; a truly charming little place that will win your heart with a great, simple menu, spectacularly exotic drinks at pleasant prices, and most of all, your delightfully hospitable host, Kalin.

Kalin is living his dream; after 15 years with one of the best known Mexican franchises in the world, he has his own cozy little lounge where he can see



We feasted on his fresh made guacamole, vegetarian nachos and the most marvelous ceviche we have had in some time, all of which Kalin personally prepares fresh daily. He is expanding his menu to include a BBQ Ribs or Ribs and Chicken platter, "at the best price to be found anywhere in Palm Beach," he promises, available as of today. We will definitely return to give them a try.



**Vegetarian Nachos**

that things are just the way he wants them. His sweet, friendly smile greets clients with authentic joy, he can't wait to share his fresh recipes for some great Mexican and regional favorites, the perfect

mentary dessert liqueur if they are willing to join him in singing a chorus of "La Cucaracha"—he is that kind of guy.

Open daily, we can easily see Kalin's becoming our regular hangout for great fresh



**Kalin and his crew**

compliment to the refreshing selection of specialty daiquiris, margaritas and other frozen confections he serves—and virgin versions for the little ones, so bring the family.

snacks, which work very well as a healthy and satisfying meal at equally satisfying prices, and where fun and friendship come along with the food.

## Gold Coast Aruba: Great savings for large families on holiday rentals



Aruba's newest and most innovative gated community has enjoyed steady sales since breaking ground, as many are finding the secure surroundings and outstanding amenities are just what they were looking for before considering purchasing property on the island. Some owners are using the villas or town homes as vacation retreats rather than full time and are taking advantage of Gold Coast's rental services to turn their investment into ready income.

"The greater portion of home owners are using their "home away from home" in Aruba to escape the winter months, or spend holidays with the family on the island," noted Gold Coast developer Fito Croes. To assist in the demand for more complete facilities for groups and families, famed hotelier Ed Malone has been placed in charge of the rental program.

Staying at Gold Coast is a very attractive proposition for those traveling with groups that would require multiple hotel rooms. Two and three bedroom Villas or Town Homes accommodate large numbers and offer extensive amenities along with a final cost resulting in considerable savings. The community is minutes to the best beaches and all the casino action, and offers a quiet and secluded getaway with two swimming pools and specialized services with more on the way, such as a fitness room, tennis courts and mini-mall. Ed can arrange maid service, babysitters, caterers,

airline pick-up and drop-off; they even boast a shopping service to stock your shelves before arrival.

Gold Coast accommodations are elegant and spacious, offering privacy for

high-speed fiber-optic Internet connection, individual washer/dryer, and are fully air-conditioned. Cribs, high chairs and hair dryers are available for a modest fee. Concierge services to arrange



parents or a few couples. Beautifully appointed kitchens and bathrooms grace each abode; barbecues and lounges are provided for friendly cookouts and truly savoring the island life. All homes come with cable TV,

rental cars, spa appointments, activities and restaurant reservations are all part of the package.

Check-in for your holiday escape is conducted in the comfort of your vacation home, not while waiting on line at check-in desk. In every way, Gold Coast seeks to pamper their guests while providing them with the feeling of being in a cozy community, not the normally bustling resort, particularly experienced during the major holidays. If you wish an optimal vacation experience with great savings, visit their website: [www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com) to get acquainted with the community and the layout, details and availability of accommodations, or call 586-2200 to talk personally to a Gold Coast representative.



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## “And the envelope please...”

# First National Shoco Awards recognize outstanding excellence in tourism



**Gerrit Griffith Lifetime Achievement winner with family**

7 years ago, the Aruba Hotel & Tourism Association (AHATA) began their annual quality assessment of those who work on the front lines of Aruban Tourism, and established the annual SHOCO Awards, named for the indigenous burrowing owl,

which has been proposed as our national bird.

This year, Aruba's Ministry of Tourism has joined major sponsors Digicel and CMB Bank to expand the Shoco to consider nominees from resorts and tourist related businesses beyond the

AHATA members, and have nationalized the award. The result was a touching tribute to those “in the trenches” on Friday evening, December 9 at the Renaissance Conference Center, and a fitting finale to the Aruba Tourism Summit 2011.



**The smile which won Robertson Thomas the One Happy Island Ambassador Award**

AHATA CEO Jim Hepple officially welcomed nominees and families, sponsors, tourism officials and the Minister of Tourism, Transport & Labor, Otmar Oduber, describing the Shoco as “The Oscars of Tourism-celebrating those who truly deserve the honor-those who work with our island visitors face to face on a daily basis.”

First called to the stage

was to receive a special award given by the General Manager of Digicel, Renco van de Veldt, which was established only 4 years ago. The Shoco Care Award goes to a worker in the industry who has demonstrated exceptional community activism; this year's winner is Rita Dirkz of Costa Del Sol Development.

Continue on pg 14

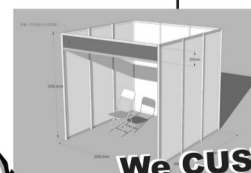
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# “And the envelope please...”

Continued from pg 14



All the winners with Minister of Tourism Otmar Oduber



EPI Best Student of the Year Mitchell van der Weide



Manager of the year Maria van de Plassche of De Palm



Tour Guide of the Year Angelique Lacle of De Palm



Employee of the Year Melvin Tromp of Renaissance

**Tour Guide of the Year:** Angelique Lacle of Depalm Tours

**One Happy Island Ambassador:** Robertson Thomas of Pelican Adventures

These two new awards celebrate exceptional spirit and dedication to providing a quality experience to island visitors, beyond a specific job description.

**Employee of the Year:** Melvin Tromp of the Renaissance Resort

**Supervisor of the Year:** Jhoanel Enrique Caraballo of the Renaissance Resort.

**Manager of the Year:** Maria van de Plassche of Depalm Island

**Young Tourism Professional of the Year:** Ayerim Maduro of Red Sail Sports

These categories, along with the Lifetime Achievement Award, already existed as part of the Shoco program. Newly created categories were:

The Lifetime Achievement honor is reserved for individuals with more than 30 years working in the tourism industry, who have genuinely impacted Aruba's tourism product in the most positive manner possible; nominees ranged in level of profession from Max Gumbs, who has been working on Depalm Tours' boats for nearly 35 years, to this year's winner, Gerrit Griffith, GM of the Divi/Dutch Village Time-share Resorts.

Continued on pg 16



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## “And the envelope please...”

Continued from pg 15

Also honored were members of the next generation of tourism executives with Best Student of the Year Awards for Hospitality Management Majors from Aruba's two in-

stitutions dedicated to the profession; Marisol Sanchez Maladondo from the University of Aruba and Mitchell van de Weide from the EPI Middle School.

Whichita Villacres, founder and CEO of ECO DMS Services, was awarded the Simon Oduber Jr. Memorial Award of Excellence. Another new category,



**Shoco Care Award to Rita Dirkz of Costal Cel Sol Development**

Sustainable Practices Award, was announced for companies or individuals demonstrating the greatest degree of innovation and dedication to practices contributing to a clean environment, deploying renewable energy, and a conscientious policy of encouraging and setting an example for sustainability. The first winners of this award among 10 candidates were Ari Lichtenstein, founder and CEO of Green Vibes, which provides locally and organically grown produce and BK Consult.

Minister Oduber took to the stage at the close of the awards to present one more special honor. He took great pride in calling forward Edward Keith, the first recipient of the Special Recognition

Award. Edward may be better known to many as “Jamaica,” and he has been welcoming island visitors for decades on a purely voluntary basis, being one of the first residents they encounter upon exiting the airport. Many may remember the man in the funny hat who offered a big smile as he gladly helped them load or unload their luggage to a taxi; if they tipped him, terrific, if not, his sincere smile never wavered. In the opinion of Minister Oduber, in every way possible, “Jamaica” is the embodiment of the warm hospitality visitors can expect on their vacation—an authentic island “character” deserving of recognition for the example he sets for all.

Rosalie Klein



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